



STATE OF MAINE
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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
MAINE LAND USE REGULATION COMMISSION
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PATRICK MCGOWAN
COMMISSIONER

Memorandum

To: Commission Members
From: Caroline Eliot, Senior Planner
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Date: September 22, 2006

2007 Comprehensive Land Use Plan Forum on Economic Development in Rural Areas of Maine

As part of the Commission's ongoing discussions relating to the 2007 Comprehensive Land Use Plan, we will host a two-hour forum spotlighting rural economic development as part of the Commission's regular October meeting in Caribou. We have invited five speakers who, as a group, will provide regional and state perspectives on rural economic development. Most are traveling a long way to lend us their experience, for which we are very appreciative. The presenters will be:

Jim Batey, Executive Director, Somerset Economic Development Corporation
Robert Clark, Executive Director, Northern Maine Development Commission
Charles Lawton, Senior Economist, Planning Decisions, Inc.
Catherine Reilly, Maine State Economist, State Planning Office
Dianne Tilton, Client Advisor, RHR Smith & Co; former Executive Director, Sunrise Economic Council

For background, I provided the presenters with links to the 1997 Plan (emphasizing Chapter 4, the Development section), as well as Planning Decisions' document, *Patterns of Change: Three Decades of Change in LURC's Jurisdiction* (emphasizing Section 5, Changing Economic Forces). I also sent them the attached memo. You may be interested in the list of questions (*in italics*) on the second page of the memo which were included to guide the presenters in preparing their remarks.

I look forward to seeing you in Caribou and learning more about rural economic development from our panelists.

CE

Enclosures: Memorandum of September 19, 2006 from Caroline Eliot to Economic Development Forum panelists
